News-Item Captioned "CCI Officials made False Insurance Claims"

89. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ.

SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "CCI officials made false insurance claims" which appeared in tht *Times of India* on the 4th May, 1985;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what action has been taken against the persons involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) took out in 1983 marine insurance covers from United India Insurance Company Limited for transit of 1284 bales of cotton from Guntur to Cochin by rail. At destination, CCI reported damage of 87 bales valued at Rs. 2,39,628/-.

As per standing arrangement which "United India" has with the CCI, whenever cotton meant for exports is damaged fully or partially, insurance company takes over the salvage and settles the claim on total loss basis. Accordingly, the claim was settled for Rs. 1,74,628.08 after adjustment of the salvage amount of Rs. 65,000.

The allegations made in the news-item have not been substantiated on enquiry. No irregularity or malafide on the part of the officers of the "United India" has been proved. Accordingly, the question of taking any action against any officer of the "United India" does not arise.

Poor utilisation of World Bank loan for State projects

90. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:
SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been very poor utilisation of World Bank loan sanctioned for various State projects;

(b) if so, what are the names of the States from where poor utilisation of the said loan has been reported;

(c) whether the Central Government have asked the concerned State Governments to look into the matter and report back; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Monitoring of projects is undertaken by Department of Economic Affairs so that the credit amounts are utilised by the States concerned.

(c) and (d) Whenever it comes to Government of India's notice that any project is lagging behind, the project authorities and State Governments are alerted to improve utilisation.

Theft in the Reserve Bank of India

91. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a cash bag containing Rs. 7.72 lakhs was stolen from the ground floor office of the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay on 8th July, 1985; if so what are the details thereof;

(b) what are the circumstances under which the said cash bag was stolen;

(c) whether the money has since been found; and

(d) what security measures are proposed to be taken to avoid such incidents in future?